

the type species, can be removed to other genera, but this is not "dividing" a genus.

The first sentence in Art. 31 of the I.C.Z.N. would not appear to have any meaning in ornithological nomenclature, nor would it appear that this Article in its proposed amended form (Bull. Zool. Nom. 4, p. 73, 1950) applies to ornithology. Art. 31 does not, in my opinion, apply to Rothschild's action and I do not think that it is right to say that he is "correctly covered" by it. There is in this case no question of misidentification, and "juggling" is not, I hope, in the curriculum of the systematic ornithologist. The acceptance, or non-acceptance, of Syria as the type locality of Linnaeus' name rests solely on whether an author follows priority.

### A Note on *Rhinomyias brunneata* (Slater)

By MR. C. M. N. WHITE.

Vaurie in his recent revision of the genus *Rhinomyias* (Amer. Mus. Novit. 1570, 1952) suggested that *R. b. nicobarica* Richmond was a distinct race with a much more rounded wing as well as some colour differences. His findings needed confirmation as he had only seen one specimen of nominate *R. brunneata* from China, his other material being one from Selangor and a dozen from the Nicobar Islands.

A series of ten specimens from Fokien in the British Museum (Natural History) confirms fully the difference in the wing formula; they also are paler, more olive brown above, much lighter on the upper tail coverts, and have white not fawn under tail coverts as compared with Nicobar birds. Wings 76–83 mm. Three birds from One Fathom Light, Selangor; Trang; and Tampin Hill, Negri Sembilan do not differ in any way from nominate *R. brunneata*. Vaurie had seen one example only from Malaya which he thought intermediate between *R. brunneata* and *R. nicobarica*. In my view these birds are migrants from China and *R. tardus* Robinson and Kloss therefore a synonym of nominate *R. brunneata*. It seems also most likely that the round winged *R. nicobarica* is a resident race in the Nicobar Islands, and not a migrant from some unknown breeding place in China. The wing form certainly suggests a non-migratory form, and the Malayan birds examined by me do not suggest any intergradation between the two races.

### A New Race of *Cisticola lateralis* (Fraser)

By MR. JAMES P. CHAPIN.

All the representatives of *Cisticola lateralis* living in savannas south of the rain forests of the Gaboon and Congo have usually been assigned to *C. l. modesta* (Bocage), of which the type locality is Cayo, Loeme River, near the coast of the French Congo. But specimens from this region of the Loango Coast, the Lower Congo, and the Middle Congo up to Lukolela differ but little in color from *C. l. antinorii* (Heuglin) of the grasslands north of the Upper Congo forest.

As I have already pointed out in my "Birds of the Belgian Congo" (1953, Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., vol. 75A, pp. 348, 350), they have very little buffy coloration on the flanks and under tail-coverts. The name *C. l. modesta* should certainly be restricted to them. Farther south and east, from northern Angola to the Kasai and Manyema, presumably also the Katanga, one finds that the back and rump are much more rufous brown, the flanks and under tail-coverts heavily washed with cinnamon buff.

This latter population is plainly in need of a new subspecific name, and I am happy to give it one in honor of my friend Colonel Jack Vincent, devoted field assistant to Admiral Hubert Lynes while materials were being collected for his great "Review of the Genus *Cisticola*" (1930, Ibis, *Cisticola* Supplement).

*Cisticola lateralis vincenti*, new race.

*Description*: Differs from the other races of *C. lateralis* by the more ruddy brown coloration of back and rump and the heavy wash of buff on flanks, tibiae, and under tail-coverts. Only the immature examples of the other races are sometimes rufous.

*Distribution*: Savannas from northern Angola to the Kasai and Manyema districts of the southern Belgian Congo, also to the western Katanga.

*Type*: Male adult, 160 kilometers west of Baraka, Lake Tanganyika, Belgian Congo, 16th January, 1908, collected by Rudolf Grauer. Wing 62mm., tail 54 mm., culmen 12.5 mm. Iris brown, feet light brown, bill black.

*Remarks*: In addition to the type and another adult male from the same locality, I have examined six males and three females, not all adult, from Luluabourg, Kasai, collected by the Reverend Father R. Callewaert, as well as two subadult males from Duque de Bragança and one adult male from Bango, Jinga country, Angola, collected by Dr. W. J. Ansorge.

In my opinion the race *C. l. modesta* is scarcely distinguishable from *C. l. antinorii*, so there would seem to be only three well-marked races of this species: *C. l. antinorii*, *C. l. vincenti*, and the dark-colored nominate *C. l. lateralis* of Upper Guinea.

The 11th International Ornithological Congress, presided over by Sir Landsborough Thomson, London, will be held in Basel (Switzerland) from 29th May to 5th June 1954.

During the week of the Congress, five days will be devoted to meetings and two to excursions. Before and after the Congress (25th—28th May and 7th—19th June) excursions will be arranged to enable members to become acquainted with the Swiss avifauna, especially of the Alps and Lower Alps. The Congress fee is 30 Swiss francs.

The prospectus, containing registration form and detailed information, will be distributed this summer. Applications to attend, and to contribute scientific papers, should be sent in before 28th February 1954, and addressed to:—

XI. INTERNATIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS,  
ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN, BASEL / SWITZERLAND.

which is available for any inquiries needed.

Basel, June 1953.